

Status of Claims

Claims 1 and 4-9 are pending.

Claims 1 and 4 stand rejected.

Claims 1 and 4 have been canceled without prejudice of disclaimer.

Remarks/Arguments

Allowed Claims

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 5-9 are allowed.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By way of this response, claims 1 and 4 have been canceled, rendering the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection moot. This amendment has been made without prejudice or disclaimer, and, without limitation, without prejudice to the right of Applicant to introduce claims identical to or similar to original claim 1 and any of its dependent claims, in one or more continuation or continuation-in-part applications claiming benefit of the present application. Without limitation, the present amendments do not reflect agreement or admission by Applicant as to the characterization of the prior art in the Office Action.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Conclusion

Applicant believe he has addressed all outstanding grounds raised by the Examiner and respectfully submits the present case is in condition for allowance, early notification of which is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any questions or outstanding matters, the Examiner is cordially invited and requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at his number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Edward J. Howard/

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